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28 January 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR/INTELLIGENCE
THE JOINT STAFF

SUBJECT: Timing and Nature of Soviet Campaign Against
Scandinavia

1. In the preparation of WIE-49, which was requested by the JIC itself and is now in process of drafting, two important issues have arisen which are not covered in the IAC agency contributions.

- a. From the military point of view, is the USSR likely in event of war to attack Scandinavia simultaneously with or later than an advance elsewhere in Western Europe? and,
- b. Whenever Scandinavia is attacked, is Sweden likely to be included or by-passed (assuming she seeks to remain neutral)?

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2. The latest [redacted] states that a Scandinavian campaign would occur "concurrently" with that in Western Europe and assumes that Sweden would be attacked. However, the latest [redacted] hedges the question, while an earlier [redacted] 22 September 1950, states that Scandinavia would be attacked "as soon as feasible" after the Western European campaign, and contains a separate US view that if Sweden remains neutral, the USSR will attack only Denmark and Norway.

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3. It would be very helpful if we could have the informal views of some of the JIC staff members on the two questions raised in paragraph 1, both in event of war in 1952 and in 1954.

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4. In addition, informal JIG staff views on the following questions would assist us:

- a. What effect might growing NATO strength, both in Scandinavia and elsewhere have upon probable Soviet intentions, say, in 1954 as compared with 1952?
- b. If the assault on Scandinavia is delayed, what effect will the mobilization period thus gained have upon Scandinavian defense capabilities?

5. Since we hope to have this estimate before the IAC representatives about mid-February, we would appreciate this contribution by about the 7th.

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director

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